

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: HB0603

Title: Require trapper safety and education courses

Primary Sponsor: Gutsche, G

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor signature	Date	David Ewer, Budget Director	Date
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Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY 2006 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007 Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
State Special Revenue	\$22,150	\$3,150
Revenue:		
State Special Revenue	\$6,488	\$600
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	\$0	\$0

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 |

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. A mandatory Trapper Safety and Education Program will include the options of an Internet course at FWP's website or a home study course combined with a half-day field course. There will be 20 classes statewide with 2 instructors at each class.
2. The one-time cost to develop an Internet course is estimated at \$2,000.
3. FWP currently offers a voluntary education program in conjunction with the Montana Trappers Association. There is a \$3,000 annual budget.
4. Based on estimates from the Trapper Association, approximately 300 students go through their volunteer program each year.
5. Initial costs for instructors are estimated at \$48 each, which includes a background check, application package (vest, manual, badge), newsletters/communications, and annual workshop costs. ($\$48 \times 40 = \$1,920$). In subsequent years, costs will be reduced to \$20 each for newsletters and workshops ($\$20 \times 40 = \800).
6. Initial costs for classroom supplies (traps, display materials, hides and furs) will be approximately \$4,000 ($\$200 \times 20 \text{ classes} = \$4,000$). In subsequent years, costs will be reduced to \$1,000 ($\$50 \times 20 \text{ classes} = \$1,000$).
7. In license year (LY) 2004, 3,244 trapping licenses were issued. In the first year, all trappers will be required to take the trapper education course. It is estimated that half will use the Internet at no cost. The

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other half will complete a home study course with an estimated cost of \$5 (for a workbook) per student. (\$5 x 1,622 = \$8,110 in FY 2006)

8. It's assumed that 300 students will go through the course in subsequent years (see assumption #4). It is estimated that half will use the Internet at no cost. The other half will complete a home study course with an estimated cost of \$5 (for a workbook) per student. (\$5 x 150 = \$750 in FY 2007).
9. All students will be charged a \$2 fee for the half-day field course to cover registration cards and patches. (\$2 x 3,244 = \$6,488 in FY 2006; and \$2 x 300 = \$600 in FY 2007)
10. All costs will be paid from the general license account.
11. Administrative costs to implement the bill will be absorbed by the department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 2006 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007 Difference</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Operating Expenses	\$22,518	\$3,150
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>		
State Special Revenue (02)	\$22,518	\$3,150
<u>Revenues:</u>		
State Special Revenue (02)	\$6,488	\$600
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>		
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$16,030)	(\$2,550)